

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. - 20. (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A method for the treatment, curing or prevention of anemia in a patient, which comprises administering to said patient a combination of a Gas6 compound or a DNA sequence encoding a Gas6 compound and erythropoietin, or an analogue, mutant, variant or derivative of said erythropoietin, or a physiologically tolerated salt of said EPO derivative, either simultaneously or sequentially, thereby ensuring a synergistic rescue effect on erythropoiesis in said patient,

wherein said erythropoietin is selected from the group consisting of:

-a naturally occurring erythropoietin,

-a glycosylation variant of erythropoietin,

-a point mutant or deletion mutant of erythropoietin which retains stimulation of the production of red blood cells, and,

-a physiologically tolerated salt of said naturally occurring erythropoietin, glycosylation variant, point mutant or deletion mutant;

and wherein said Gas6 compound is selected from the group consisting of:

-wild type Gas6,

-a fragment of Gas6 lacking the A domain or a fragment of Gas6 consisting essentially of the D domain,

-a Gas mutant having at least 95 % sequence identity at the amino acid level said Gas6 fragment and retaining the function of activating the Gas6 receptors Axl, Mer and Sky, and,

-a physiologically tolerated salt of said wild type Gas6, fragment or mutant.

22. (cancelled)

23. (cancelled)

24. (cancelled)
25. (cancelled)
26. (cancelled)
27. (cancelled)
28. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein said DNA encoding a Gas6 compound is comprised in a vector.
29. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein said DNA encoding a Gas6 compound is engineered into a cell.
30. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein said anemia is caused by or associated with a disorder selected from the group consisting of chronic renal failure, aplastic anemia, hemolytic anemia, malignancy, an endocrine deficiency or is the result of chemotherapy.
31. (new) The method according to claim 21 wherein said glycosylation variant of erythropoietin is epoetin or darbepoetin.
32. (new) The method according to claim 21, wherein said anemia is caused by chronic renal failure.